

REPORT OF TARIFF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
ON
PREFERENCES TO BE SOUGHT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM
ON CANADIAN GOODS.

(Agricultural products)

1. The report covers the more important actual or potential Canadian agricultural exports to the United Kingdom, with the exception of wheat, which is being discussed in a separate memorandum.
2. It suggests the retention of the existing preference 10% unless stated) on the following:
cheese, barley, (oats?), clovers, grass seeds, hay, concentrated milks, honey, oatmeal, soups, tomato ketchup, tomatoes, pickles and sauces, dried and canned apples and pears (25%) and flour.
3. It proposes new or very substantially higher duties on fresh apples, fresh pears, fresh plums, bacon, ham, eggs, dressed poultry, sausage casings, tobacco.
4. It proposes revision of present hampering United Kingdom regulations respecting live cattle and potatoes.
5. The report presents clear, concise, and considered recommendations. If feasible they would undoubtedly give a distinct stimulus to Canadian agriculture.
6. At the same time it is clear that the United Kingdom delegation will not easily be brought to accept such a programme.
 - i. The United Kingdom has definitely taken the ground that even the continuance of the existing preferences is not possible "unless balanced by reciprocal concessions".
 - ii. The United Kingdom has explicitly warned us that it will be "far more difficult" to impose duties on articles now free (e.g. meats), than to retain existing duties, and that "before such concessions should be considered, reciprocal concessions of outstanding importance would have to be offered by the Dominions, over and above those offered in return for continuance of concessions by the United Kingdom under Imports Act" - (i.e. existing concessions). Further, the United Kingdom is definitely averse to specific duties, such as are suggested in several cases by the Committee.

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